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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 02519 021738Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 HA-05 MCT-01
EB-08 TRSE-00 /078 W
----------053726 030456Z /10
R 021527Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6741
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINS, PINT, NU
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON FSLN ACTIONS

REF: (A) MANAGUA 2324; (B) MANAGUA 2201; (C) MANAGUA 2068

SUMMARY: THE PAST FEW WEEKS HAVE SEEN A CONTINUATION OF LOW-LEVEL FSLN OPERATIONS. ONE RADIO STATION WAS TAKEN OVER AND ATTEMPTED TO BROADCAST A COMMUNIQUE, TWO BANKS WERE ROBBED, AND STUDENT AND LABOR AGITATION HAS CONTINUED. END SUMMARY

1. ON 27 MAY, THREE MEN AND A WOMAN--ALL REPORTEDLY ARMED WITH .45 CALIBER PISTOL OCCUPIED THE STUDIOS OF RADIO CORPORACION IN MANAGUA.

THE OCCUPATION OCCURRED AT APPROXIMATELY 5:25 A.M. AND THEIR INTENT WAS TO BRAODCAST A COMMQNIQUE. THE OCCUPIERS REPORTEDLY WERE 18-20 YEARS OLD. NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS STATE THAT THE RADIO STATION STAYED ON THE AIR ONLY 15 SECONDSAND THE COMMUNIQUE WAS NOT FURTHER BROADCAST. THE COMMUNIQUE ITSELF WAS AN APPEAL TO NATIONAL GUARDSMEN OF "CON-SCIENCE" TO DISOBEY THEIR SUPERIORS AND TO OPPUSE THE "TYRANT"
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(SOMOZA) BY JOINING THE ""CAUSE OF THE PEOPLE".

2. ON 17 MAY, THE BANCO NACIONAL BRANCH IN CORINTO WAS ROBBED OF APPROXIMATELY $24,000 (US) IN BOTH US AND NICARAGUAN CURRENCY. THIS ROBBERY HAS NOT BEEN DEFINITIVELY LAID TO THE FSLN. ON 30 MAY, IN WHAT DOES APPEAR TO BE AN FSLN OPERATION, THE BANCO NICARAGUENSE BANK IN DIRIAMBA WAS ROBBED FOR THE SECOND TIME THIS YEAR. ALMOST

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$36,00 IN NICARAGUAN CURRENCY WAS TAKEN. NO SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN AP-
PREHENDED IN EITHER ROBBERY.

3. IN RECENT WEEKS, THERE HAVE BEENTWO ISOLATED INSTANCES OF ATTACKS
ON NATIONAL GUARDSMEN. IN ONE ATTACK, A NATIONAL GUARD (GN) JEEP WAS
ATTACKED BY A PASSING CAR ON A HIGHWAY. NO CASUALTIES RESULTED AND
ONLY MINOR DAMGE WAS DONE. IN ANOTHER INCIDENT, SEVERAL OFF-DUTY
NATIONAL GUARDSMEN IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES WERE KILLED. OFFICIAL GN
POSITION IS THAT GUARDSMEN WERE DRUNK AND "IMPRUDENT".

4. AS REPORTED PREVIOUSLY (REFTEL A), A FACTION OF THE FSLN IS
ACTIVELY FOMENTING STUDENT UNREST. THIS UNREST HAS CONTINUED WITH
ALMOST DAILY SCATTERED STUDENT ACTVITIES RANGING FROM OCCUPATIONS TO
STRIKES, EACH ACCOMPANIED BY ANTI-GON DEMANDS. SOME OF THESE OCCUPA-
TIONS HAVE BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY THE EXPLOSION OF BOMBS BY STUDENTS
AND, IN AT LEASE ONE CASE, BY NON-STUDENTS. MANY OF THESE OCCUPATIONS
HAVE BEEN BROKEN UP BY ELEMENTS OF THE GN. WITHIN THE PAST TWO
WEEKS, UNIPSRSITY STUDENTS HAVE GIVEN THEIR SUPPORT TO ADMINISTRATIVE
STAFF AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (UNAN) WHO ARE DEMANDING A 40
PERCENT SALARY INCREASE. UNAN HAS OFFERED 10 PERCENT, CITING
BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS. THE WORKERS HAVE STATED THAT IF THEIR DEMAND
ARE NOT MET, THEY WILL HALT ALL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING GIVING EXAMS.
ALSO, SEVERAL DAYS AGO, LA PRENSA CARRIED AN ARTICLE STATING THAT
ALL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS OF ALL INSTITUTES OF HIGHER EDUCATION HAVE
UNIFIED "TO STRUCTURE A CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE "REPRESSIVE WAVE OF
THE REGIME".
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COMMENT: NO MAJOR FSLN OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN MOUNTED, BUT STEADY
ANTI-GON PRESSURE CONTINUES. AS OPPOSED TO PREVIOUS NEAR UNIVERSAL
SECONDARY STUDENT ACTIVISM (REFTELS B AND C), THE CURRENT STUDENT
PROTESTS ARE NOT AS WIDESPREAD, BUT CONTINUE TO CONSTITUTE A
DESTABLIZING FACTOR.
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